

**Spencer Town Council Regular Meeting
August 20, 2012 at 7p.m.
Municipal Building
90 N. West Street
Spencer, IN 47460**

Board Members present: Cynthia Hyde, Jon Stantz and Dean Bruce.

Also present: Richard Lorenz, Clerk-Treasurer Cheryl Moke, Town Marshal Richard Foutch, Sewage Dept, Interim Supt. John Hodge, Street Dept. Assistant Supt Roger Freeman, Michael Stanley, and James Baughn.

Before the meeting was opened, Cynthia Hyde stated that a public forum would be held to allow anyone to make comments. The comments would be limited to three minutes, and should not contain profanity or accusations of criminal activity. Mr. Kip Day was on hand and asked what the current status of the sewer plant was. Cynthia told him that would be covered in the regular update from the sewer department later in the meeting. There were no other public comments.

MEETING WAS OPENED WITH THE PLEDGE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR AUGUST 6th, 2012 REGULAR MEETING

Jon Stantz made a motion to accept the minutes as presented, seconded by Dean Bruce and the motion passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF PUBLIC ISSUES

Donna Rice, representing the American Legion, requested for Saturday, September 15th, after the Apple Butter Festival parade, that they be allowed to block off Main Street from Jefferson to Market so they could have live music and children's activities outside. There was some discussion about the traffic pattern in the area and the timing of the activities. The decision was for Donna Rice to first discuss this with the Lion's Club to ensure their music plans would not interfere with the Festival activities. Also to stay within the confines of the Town's ordinance, they should have no live music after 11pm. Cynthia Hyde said that would be acceptable and that Donna Rice should report back at the next meeting after they meet with the Lion's Club.

Next, the Town Board presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Reserve Officers of the Spencer Police Department.

IN THE MATTER OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Nothing to report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

No report.

IN THE MATTER OF THE STREET DEPARTMENT

Roger Freeman reported that they are still waiting on the paving company to schedule their work on Hillside. Richard Lorenz asked if the Street Dept had an invoice for the work they did on the Sandburg property and Mr. Freeman said he would have Larry Parrish get one for him.

Jon Stantz discussed the purchase of new light fixtures for the 46 project. He checked into a company called Sternberg that carried these, and asked for an estimate for LED lights on 18 foot poles. He also noted that the light would not go beyond a ninety degree angle, so they would not interfere with the night sky. He mentioned that the LED lights are currently being used in Bloomington on Kirkwood and on the IU campus. The LED lights have a life of 15 to 20 years, whereas the halogen are 2 to 5 years. He noted that we would need 35 to 40 lights for this project, which will be started in 2015.

IN THE MATTER OF THE SEWER DEPARTMENT

John Hodge, Interim Supervisor, answered the question posed earlier by Kip Day. He said the plant was running well, with no serious issues. He was next asked how the testing was going, and John said they test for ecoli three times a week. Next Jon Stantz commented that the State has been here three times this year, took samples, and have not reported any problems. We will get a full report from them in 60 to 90 days. Kip Day asked if the issue of the raw sewage being dumped into the river was resolved, and the board responded that that was never an issue, but a false report. John Hodge explained that raw sewage enters the plant at one place, and goes through four tanks before the water ever exits. Next he asked about the reporting issues, but was told by the board members that that issue is between Shelley Edwards and the State of Indiana and their requirements for licensing. Kip Day said he heard some issues from a former employee but wanted to know for himself what was true. He said he would stop by sometime and meet with John Hodge to tour the plant.

John Hodge reported on various maintenance issues. He reported there were no major problems at this time. He added that the east lift station would need to be rehabbed soon.

There was a request for a sewer adjustment located at 455 Garden Drive in the amount of \$83.40 which met all the requirements.

Dean Bruce made a motion to approve the request for adjustment in the amount of \$83.40. It was seconded by Jon Stantz and passed 3-0.

Richard Lorenz made a suggestion that a digital file be maintained to record information for all newly installed equipment and warranties and maintained at the plant.

IN THE MATTER OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Richard Lorenz discussed the discrepancy in the town code regarding R-1 and R-2. He presented an Ordinance (2012-3) to Amend Town Code Zoning 152.003 and 152.004, definitions for 2 residential districts of the town of Spencer. These amendments will more accurately reflect what is already currently in existence in terms descriptions of the structures built. Cynthia Hyde requested more time to review.

IN THE MATTER OF THE FIRE TERRITORY

Cynthia Hyde said the volunteer firefighters are looking at the hydrants that were not operating properly.

IN THE MATTER OF THE ATTORNEY

The agreement with INDOT for the Franklin Street Extension calls for two payments of \$50,0000, of which the first one was made and the second was due after July, according to Richard Lorenz. The Clerk-Treasurer said she will look into this and make the payment from the Economic Development Fund.
Jon Stantz made a motion to authorize payment in the amount of \$50,000 to INDOT from the appropriate fund. The motion was seconded by Cynthia Hyde and passed 3-0.

The change on the speed limit to Brookside Drive can be reduced to 20 miles per hour within the Town’s authority. Anything lower than that would require a comprehensive speed study of all streets. This would be cost prohibitive to do at this time for just one street. The recommendation is to lower the speed on Brookside to 20 miles per hour at this time.
Jon Stantz made the motion to reduce the speed on Brookside Drive from 30 mph to 20 mph. Dean Bruce seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

IN THE MATTER OF OLD BUSINESS

The Owen County Art Guild presented their request again to use a vacant lot directly behind them. The question of ownership is still an issue. The Town Board does not have the authority to grant them to use this property, but Richard Lorenz said he could help him find out when and who owns the property so they could contact them directly.

IN THE MATTER OF NEW BUSINESS

Matt Sward shared some information on planning grants and Stellar Communities. Cynthia said she felt we were in a better position to move forward with the park planning grant first.

Mr. Thurston, from the Owen County Art Guild requested to post additional directional signs along Cooper Street pointing to the Guild from the Fairgrounds to Main Street. Dean Bruce said he would like to take a look at the location first, and then discuss with Larry Parrish before they make a decision.

IN THE MATTER OF CLAIMS

There were no claims presented for approval at tonight’s meeting. They will be submitted at the next meeting.

IN THE MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

Jon Stantz motioned to adjourn at 9:10 p.m. seconded by Cynthia Hyde and the motion passed 3-0.

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Cynthia Hyde, President	Jon Stantz, Vice-President	Dean Bruce, Board Member

Attest:_____

Cheryl Moke, Clerk-Treasurer